GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3123
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2001
PRODUCTION/CONSUMPTION/EXPORT OF SALT
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total production, consumption and export of salt during each of the last three years in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of employees engaged in salt works in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) whether the Government are aware that Gujarat is supplying about 3lakh tonnes salt to Maharashtra, whereas Salt Commissioner, Jaipur has allowed only 58,000 tonnes;

(d) if so, whether regional officer, salt growers association and public representatives of Maharashtra have urged the Salt Commissioner to take immediate action in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is annexed.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3123, due for answer on 10th August, 2001
Part (a) : The State-wise production, dispatches and export of salt during the last three years are given in Annexures - I, II and III respectively.

Part (b): The statistics with regard to the labourers employed in the salt industry are not centrally maintained. However, as per the information available with the Salt Commissioner, the number of labourers engaged in the salt industry and particularly in Maharashtra during the last three years was as under:-

	1998	1999	2000
All India	1,10,845	92,773	1,00,034
Maharashtra	3,698	2,798	4,290

(c) to (e) : In the Zonal Scheme 2000-2001, originally there was a provision for movement of 25 BG rakes (equivalent to 58,000 tonnes of salt from Gujarat to Maharashtra. The salt production in Maharashtra upto October, 2000 was estimated at about 1.5 lakh tonnes as against the total requirement of 7.5 lakh tonnes (including industrial use) of the State. Keeping in view of the shortfall in salt production in the State, movement of 111 BG rakes (equivalent to 2,57,000 tonnes) of salt was allowed by the Salt Commissioner from Gujarat to Maharashtra up to December, 2000 to avoid scarcity of salt and to keep the prices under control. The salt manufacturers of Maharashtra, however, represented against this excess movement. The position was, therefore, reviewed by the Government and further movement of salt rakes under priority traffic from Gujarat to Maharashtra was stopped from January, 2001 to protect the interest of the local manufacturers.

A new Zonal scheme for the year 2001-2002 issued by the Salt Commissioner in consultation with the salt manufacturers of Maharashtra, Gujarat, etc. in March, 2001 in which a provision of 72 BG rakes (equivalent to 1,67,000 tonnes) has been made for movement of edible salt from Gujarat to Maharashtra during the period between April, 2001 and March, 2002.In addition, it is estimated that about 293000 tonnes of salt my move from Gujarat to Maharashtra by road during the said period.

No representation has been received by the Government from any quarter after the Zonal Scheme for 2001-2002 was issued.

ANNEXURE - I

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3123 ANSWER ON 10-8-2001

STATE-WISE PRODUCTION OF COMMON SALT DURING 1998, 1999 & 2000.

(Figures in `000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	Name of State	1998	1999	2000
1.	Rajasthan	1120.5	1711.1	1228.5
2.	Gujarat	8716.8	10048.3	11588.4
3.	Maharashtra	218.7	157.6	154.2
4.	Karnataka	14.1	12.0	14.8
5.	Goa	0.2	2.0	2.2
6.	Andhra Pradesh	238.2	278.1	204.8
7	Tamil Nadu	1565.6	2159.9	2359.7
8.	Orissa	38.4	29.2	12.2
9.	West Bengal	6.8	13.2	11.2
10	Himachal Pradesh	2.4	3.0	2.6
11.	Diu & Daman	42.7	38.3	72.7
	Total	11964.4	14452.7	15651.3

ANNEXURE - II

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3123 ANSWER ON 10-8-2001

Despatches of edible/non-edible salt from various production Centres to different consuming States

(Figures in `000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	Name of the State Despatches	1998	1999	2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	916.9	692.9	643.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.8	4.7	4.5
3.	Assam	208.8	253.1	226.8
4.	Bihar	626.6	713.4	751.0
5.	Goa	2.3	3.2	3.8
6.	Gujarat	4084.9	4159.0	4904.9
7	Haryana	73.4	112.6	154.2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10.0	9.3	7.3

9. Jammu & Kashmir	26.2	24.0	34.2
10. Karnataka	173.5	224.1	195.3
11. Kerala	266.2	286.3	332.2
12. Madhya Pradesh	543.6	594.0	580.8
13. Maharashtra	533.7	507.0	655.7
14 Manipur	4.2	1.8	0
15 Meghalaya	10.4	2.9	0
16. Mizoram	1.2	0.0	4.7
17. Nagaland	4.6	7.1	10.8
18 Orissa	219.3	213.7	221.9
19. Punjab	169.1	236.4	211.7
20 Rajasthan	261.6	245.8	228.3
21. Sikkim	4.0	6.6	4.7
22. Tamil Nadu	431.4	582.0	584.3
23. Tripura	26.6	6.3	19.8
24. Uttar Pradesh	974.9	1068.9	1141.7
25. West Bengal	618.5	624.5	677.6
26. Delhi	268.6	334.5	339.6
27. Chandigarh	32.2	28.9	36.6
28. Defence	5.3	10.3	7
29. Pondicherry	59.4	53.6	47.6
30. Diu & Daman	-	0.2	0.1
31. Andaman & Nicobar	0.8	0 .9	0.6
Total	10568.0	11008.0	12031.4

ANNEXURE - III

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3123 ANSWER ON 10-8-2001

Export ofsalt from different States

(Figures in `000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1998	1999	2000
1.	Gujarat	328.04	426.34	677.90
2.	Maharashtra	-	0.2	-
3.	Tamil Nadu	78.81	402.44	371.97
4.	Rajasthan	-	-	6.96
	Total	406.85	828.80	1056.83